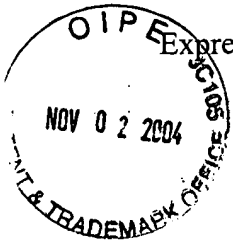


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PATENT APPLICATION

Docket: 13447.42



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: )  
 )  
Daniel F. Justin et al. )  
 ) Art Unit  
Serial No.: 10/749,332 ) 3732  
 )  
Filed: December 30, 2003 )  
 )  
Confirmation No.: 9889 )  
 )  
For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR FORMING )  
A TUNNEL THROUGH A PROXIMAL END OF )  
A TIBIA )

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that the shortened statutory period which was set for responding to the Office Action dated August 4, 2004, in the above-identified patent application be extended for one-month until November 4, 2004.

Form PTO-2038 submitting Credit Card Payment in the amount of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith for payment of the fee associated with this Petition, as set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Petition to Deposit Account No. 23-3178. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefore and charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of November 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dana L. Tangren", with a stylized flourish at the end.

DANA L. TANGREN  
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